

Windshield Wiper Drives Wigwagging Stop Signal

A DISCARDED or second-hand electric windshield wiper in good condition can be readily converted into the power plant for driving a wigwagging automobile stop signal that commands instant attention. Mounted on the rear of a car, it is visible day or night for a considerable distance. To the wiper-blade arm, a metal disk four inches in diameter is soldered or bolted with brackets so that it is securely mounted. Paint the disk in alternate stripes of yellow and black, and attach to its center a red reflector button of the type used to mount license tags on their brackets. Bolt the wiper motor to the center of the luggage-compartment cover, or any desired point where it will be protected by the car's rear bumper from accidental damage. If the unit itself is found to be grounded when installed, connect the "live" terminal of the motor to the lead wire from the stop-light switch. When the brakes of the car are applied, the circuit is closed, and the wigwag swings rapidly back and forth like a pendulum, to signal cars behind you. If the unit is not grounded, it will be necessary to connect one of its terminals with the car chassis by means of a wire. Solder all connections.—J. H. G.

Asphalt Paint Protects Brake Line from Acid

OVERFILLING of automobile batteries mounted under the hood can be the cause of hydraulic-brake failure if the battery acid runs or drips down on the hydraulic line, resulting in corrosion and leakage. If any acid has been spilled in this way in your car, the first thing to do is to take it to a good mechanic who is capable of determining the possible damage. If the damage is only slight, wash the hydraulic line with soda solution along the length that has been exposed, and then dry it thoroughly. Then with a brush apply a coating of good asphalt paint to the pipe line. This will prevent damage if acid should accidentally be spilled on the line again.—R. P. O.



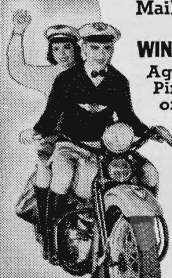
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